

Office of the Attorney General State of Texas

DAN MORALES
ATTORNEY GENERAL

October 10, 1994

Mr. Claud H. Drinnen Assistant City Attorney City of Amarillo P.O. Box 1971 Amarillo, Texas 79105-1791

OR96-1846

Dear Mr. Drinnen:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under chapter 552 of the Government Code. Your request was assigned ID# 101676.

The City of Amarillo (the "city") received a request for a copy of Incident Report No. 96-75105. You contend that the requested report, a copy of which you have submitted to this office for review, is excepted from disclosure pursuant to section 552.108 of the Government Code.

Section 552.108 excepts from disclosure "[i]nformation held by a law enforcement agency or prosecutor that deals with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime," and "[a]n internal record or notation of a law enforcement agency or prosecutor that is maintained for internal use in matters relating to law enforcement or prosecution." Gov't Code § 552.108; see Holmes v. Morales, 924 S.W.2d 920 (Tex. 1996). We note, however, that information normally found on the front page of an offense report is generally considered public. Houston Chronicle Publishing Co. v. City of Houston, 531 S.W.2d 177 (Tex. Civ. App.--Houston [14th Dist.] 1975), writ ref'd n.r.e. per curiam, 536 S.W.2d 559 (Tex. 1976); Open Records Decision No. 127 (1976). Thus, you must release the type of information that is considered to be front page offense report information, even if this information is not actually located on the front page of the offense report. Section 552.108 provides that you may withhold the remaining information from disclosure, although you may choose to release all or part of the information at issue that is not otherwise confidential by law. Gov't Code § 552.007.

We are resolving this matter with an informal letter ruling rather than with a published open records decision. This ruling is limited to the particular records at issue under the facts

presented to us in this request and should not be relied upon as a previous determination regarding any other records. If you have any questions about this ruling, please contact our office.

Yours, very truly,

Karen E. Hattaway

Assistant Attorney General Open Records Division

KEH/ch

Ref: ID# 101676

Enclosures: Submitted documents

cc: Ms. Olga Morales

4007 S E 16th

Amarillo, Texas 79786

(w/o enclosures)